



# The International Fancy Guppy Association



Dedicated to Promoting The Fancy Guppy Hobby

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<h2>Daphnia</h2> <p>By Bob Van Den Langenberg</p>								

I've been feeding live daphnia to my fish since October of 1989. What I'm going to write is what I've been doing. It doesn't mean it's right or that it will work for you, I use a 30 gallon plastic garbage can with a submersible heater set at 86 degrees. If the temperature gets about 80, the daphnia start disappearing. A 150 watt spot light suspended over the top is left on 24 hours a day. If light sources get below 16 hours a day, the daphnia start producing eggs that show up as dark specks in the can and then the live daphnia start disappearing. I heard some place that the daphnia need the bacteria that live in snails intestines, so I feed them fish food, collect what forms near the top, put them through a blender with added water and feed them to my guppies.

For feeding daphnia, I use active yeast that I buy by the bucket and a potato flake mixture of one part potato flakes and two parts yeast. Occasionally I give them green water. For green water, I have three two liter bottles in a window that I added some algae to the water for a starter. The water in one of the bottles is put in the blender and poured into the daphnia and snail can. I add new water and two drops of African Violet plant food, put a piece of cotton in top of the bottle for a stopper and put it back in the window. The bottles are used in rotation so algae in the first bottle has time to grow.

Now, back to the 30 gallon can. About 4 gallons of fresh water is changed daily. Double knit fabric can be used to drain the waste water through. Occasionally, I would guess about 6 weeks, the water is siphoned from the bottom into an ice cream bucket to get the muck off the bottom. Then I let the muck settle and use air line tubing to siphon captured daphnia back into their can. A fine fish net moved through the water in a figure eight fashion will collect hundreds of daphnia. Very light aeration is also put in the can.

I hope I've answered most of the questions. If not, you'll have to visit me sometime and see for yourself.

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## Filtration

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